

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-20. **(Cancelled).**

21. **(New)** An umbrella apparatus comprising:

a pole portion;

a canopy portion hingedly coupled to the pole portion;

a rechargeable electrical power system for providing electrical power to the umbrella apparatus; and

a solar energy system attached to the top of the pole portion above the canopy portion, the solar energy system being adapted to collect solar energy and convert the solar energy into electrical energy, the solar energy system being conductively coupled to the rechargeable electrical power system, such that the solar energy collected and converted into electrical energy recharges the rechargeable electrical power system.

22. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the rechargeable electrical power system and the solar energy system are both carried by a single housing mounted on the pole portion above the canopy portion.

23. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the solar energy system is carried by a first housing mounted on the top of the pole portion above the canopy portion and the rechargeable electrical power system is carried by a second housing located below the canopy portion.

24. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

an electrical charging system for recharging the rechargeable electrical power system, the electrical charging system being adapted to receive power from an AC power outlet.

25. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:
a removable base support portion adapted to receive the pole portion and support the umbrella apparatus in an upright position.
26. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the rechargeable electrical power system is carried within the base support portion.
27. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising:
an electrical charging system for recharging the rechargeable electrical power system, the electrical charging system being adapted to receive power from an AC power outlet;
wherein the electrical charging system is carried within the base support portion.
28. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising:
an electrical charging system for recharging the rechargeable electrical power system, the electrical charging system being adapted to receive power from an AC power outlet;
wherein the electrical charging system and the rechargeable electrical power system are both carried within the base support portion.
29. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising:
a remote AC docking station for recharging the rechargeable electrical power system;
wherein the rechargeable electrical power system is configured for detachment from the umbrella apparatus and attachment to the remote AC docking station.
30. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the solar energy system is conductively coupled to the rechargeable electrical power system by a releasable plug, such that the solar energy collected and converted into electrical energy recharges the rechargeable electrical power system when the solar energy system is plugged into the rechargeable electrical power system.

31. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the canopy portion comprises:

- a collapsible cover;
- a plurality of rib members for supporting the collapsible cover; and
- a lighting system carried by the rib members, the lighting system being conductively coupled to and powered by the rechargeable electrical power system.

32. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the lighting system comprises:

- a plurality of lighting elements recessed within the rib members.

33. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the canopy portion comprises:

- a collapsible cover;
- a plurality of rib members for supporting the collapsible cover; and
- a lighting system carried by the collapsible cover, the lighting system being conductively coupled to and powered by the rechargeable electrical power system.

34. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the canopy portion comprises:

- a collapsible cover;
- a plurality of rib members for supporting the collapsible cover;
- a hub member that is movable along the pole portion;
- a strut hingedly connected between the hub and each rib member; and
- a lighting system carried by the struts, the lighting system being conductively coupled to and powered by the rechargeable electrical power system.

35. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the canopy portion comprises:

- a collapsible cover;
- a plurality of rib members extending radially outward from the pole portion for

supporting the collapsible cover;

a cooling system carried at the radially exterior ends of the rib members, the cooling system being conductively coupled to and powered by the rechargeable electrical power system.

36. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the cooling system comprises:

at least one electric fan coupled to a corresponding rib member, each electric fan being conductively coupled to and powered by the rechargeable electrical power system.

37. **(New)** An umbrella apparatus comprising:

a pole portion;

a canopy portion hingedly coupled to the pole portion;

a rechargeable electrical power system for providing electrical power to the umbrella apparatus the rechargeable electrical power system being connected to the top of the pole portion above the canopy portion.

38. **(New)** The umbrella apparatus according to claim 37, wherein the rechargeable electrical power system comprises:

a first port adapted for connection to a solar energy recharging system for providing a trickle charge to the rechargeable electrical power system;

a second port adapted for connection to an AC adapter for recharging the rechargeable electrical power system; and

a third port adapted for connection to at least one of the following electrical subsystems operably associated with the umbrella apparatus:

a lighting subsystem;

a cooling subsystem; and

a motorized opening and closing subsystem for opening and closing the canopy portion.